

Application No. 10/002,620

Reply to Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a fertilizer comprising a sparingly-water soluble phosphatic fertilizer, a urea/aliphatic condensation product, and a water-repellent substance, wherein the fertilizer is in particulate form, the process comprising particles granulation by use of the water-repellent substance, the sparingly water-soluble phosphatic fertilizer, the urea/aliphatic aldehyde condensation product, and water as raw materials and a step of drying the particles by use of a gas held at a temperature not lower than a melting point of the water-repellent substance and not higher than 500°C.

15. (Original) The process as described in claim 14 wherein the temperature of the raw materials in the step of granulation is a temperature from 0 to 40°C lower than the melting point of the water-repellent substance.

16. (Original) The process as described in claim 14 wherein the granulation of the particles in the step of granulation is carried out by use of a stirring-type mixing granulator.

17. (Previously Presented) The process as described in claim 14 wherein the water-repellent substance comprises a particulate.

18. (Original) The process as described in claim 17 wherein the particle size of the particulate water-repellent substance ranges from 0.005 to 1 millimeter.

19. (Original) The process as described in claim 14 wherein the ratio of water ranges from 5 to 30 weight percent to the total amount of the water-repellent substance, the sparingly water-soluble phosphatic fertilizer, and the urea/aliphatic aldehyde condensation product.

20-34. (Canceled)